

EDUCATION

PARENTS AND MENTORS

TOTAL EDUCATION PROGRAM INVESTMENTS: \$174,000

TARGET OUTCOME: INCREASE THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS IN FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS; AND/OR INCREASE THE NUMBER OF MENTORS.

Children's Home Society (www.chsfl.org)

Project 18 Mentoring: \$25,000

Project 18 Mentoring provides mentors for **93** youth in foster care, ages 13-21, who need a trusted friend to guide them toward completion of their education and toward independent living. The program focuses on a quality mentoring relationship for at least 2 years that emphasizes educational achievement and the development of youth assets.

Zip Code Served: 33406

Why is this program necessary?

In Palm Beach County there are 884 children in the foster care system. Of those, 41 will transition out of the system at age 18. It is estimated that one third of Florida's foster children will become homeless within 3 years of aging out. Based on that data, 14 of the 41 would most likely end up homeless. Foster care youth who turn 18 in Florida, will have their comprehensive services discontinued.

Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies (www.hmhbpbpc.org)

Teen Mom Mentoring: \$9,000

The Caps & Cribs Teen Mom Mentor Program is a one-on-one mentor program that supports **15** teens who are pregnant or parenting and help guide them on a path to finish high school, set goals in areas of finance, jobs, motherhood and relationships, and work with them individually to achieve these goals on a step by step basis. **Zip Code Served: 33483**

Why is this program necessary?

841 teens delivered babies last year in Palm Beach County and an average of 2% of them complete high school. Hundreds of young mothers struggle with a number of social, emotional, educational, and health issues as they try to raise a child and still be a teenager; resulting in lack of self-esteem.

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[Literacy Coalition \(www.literacyxbc.org\)](http://www.literacyxbc.org)

Family Literacy: \$90,000

The two family literacy programs, Glades Family Education in Belle Glade serving adults and their preschool children and Village Readers Family Education in Delray Beach serving adults and their elementary children help the adult learners gain essential literacy and parenting skills so that they can help their children succeed in school, provide a nurturing family environment and qualify for jobs that pay a family-sustaining wage. Their children are helped to develop strong literacy and reading (or pre-reading) skills. This program serves **64** adults and **16** children in the glades area and **90** adults and **30** children in the Delray area.

Zip Codes Served: 33444 and 33430

Why is this program necessary?

Palm Beach County's prosperity will be enhanced when its most vulnerable populations gain the critical skills they need to live economically self-sustaining lives. Some areas of the county suffer disproportionately from the related issues of low educational levels and high poverty. The Glades communities and the southwest section of Delray Beach are two such areas.

[Milagro Center \(www.milagrocenter.org\)](http://www.milagrocenter.org)

Mentoring Miracles: \$15,000

Mentoring Miracles program is designed to provide **55** students who participate in either our STARS or our Teen Program with one-on-one mentoring. **55** Mentors give support and encouragement to their mentee in all areas of their life, with particular focus on their school work and social interactions. Most importantly, the program teaches the children how to develop intergenerational relationships, which will be important and beneficial throughout their lives. **Zip Code Served: 33444**

Why is this program necessary?

In Palm Beach County only 70% of youth graduate from high school. In the community, nearly 40% speak English as a second language, are unschooled, and cannot read well enough to pass standardized tests. It is vital that quality programs exist to care for and enhance the opportunities available to at-risk children.

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YMCA of South Palm Beach (www.ymcaspbc.org)

Caridad Kids Summer Camp: \$35,000

The program surrounds **85** children, who come from extreme poverty, with role-model mentors: college-age counselors, teachers, health professionals, and child development directors to participate in summer camp activities for the summer opposed to the alternative of staying home alone or work in the field with their parents. After participating, many have attended college and even been hired at the YMCA to help others. **Zip Code Served: 33436**

Why is this program necessary?

The need for financial assistance for children of migrant farmworkers, day laborers and the working poor has grown. Without the program, many of the children would be at home unsupervised, in a field all day while their parents work, or parents would not earn desperately needed income for their family.
